

*ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS*

Replace the Abstract with:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A rangefinder apparatus ~~comprises~~ includes an autofocus (AF) data-generating means generator; an AF data acquiring-means unit; an interpolated correlation extreme value-computing-means computer for detecting at least one correlation extreme value from computed correlation values, and interpolating ~~so as to compute the interpolated correlation extreme value(s); a highest correlation value-detecting-means detector~~ for detecting a highest correlation value exhibiting the highest correlation according to the interpolated correlation extreme value(s); a shift amount-computing-means computer for computing the shift amount of a window area yielding the highest correlation value; a rangefinding error ~~determining-means detector~~ for determining the validity of the computed shift amount depending on whether the shift amount computed by the shift amount-computing-means is outside of a predetermined range or not; and an object distance-calculating-means calculator for calculating the distance to an object according to the shift amount.